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**INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THEATRICAL STAGE EMPLOYEES, MOVING PICTURE TECHNICIANS,
ARTISTS AND ALLIED CRAFTS OF THE UNITED STATES, ITS TERRITORIES AND CANADA**

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister
Langevin Block
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

July 8, 2016

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

I am writing today, on behalf of the 17,000 Canadian members of the IATSE, with regard to the lock-out and service disruption at Canada Post. I would first like to commend you for the formation of a task force to review Canada Post's mandate. Clearly, changes must be made and a review is in order.

Canada Post is set to lock out 50,000 postal workers and jeopardize mail service across Canada as early as Monday. In spite of long-standing profitability, Canada Post is proposing steep concessions that would entrench unfair wages and undermine pensions for future generations. There is no logic to a stable and profitable corporation moving toward locking out its workforce when that workforce wants to continue bargaining.

Canada Post CEO Deepak Chopra's actions have indicated that he has little interest in working with the Canadian Union of Postal Workers to reach a resolution. Mr. Chopra has already issued a lock-out notice, demonstrating he has no qualms about unnecessarily disrupting mail service to all Canadians.

The Liberal Party promised to preserve and protect Canada's postal services, and was elected by an overwhelming majority of Canadians. Mr. Chopra has taken nothing from that majority voice. He has continued to act in a manner that is anti-worker, and arguably, anti-feminist, as he refuses to yield on equal pay for the (70% female) rural delivery workforce.

The situation at Canada Post has reached a critical level. Given your party's progressive position on postal services and Mr. Chopra's intractable stance during this negotiation process, I urge you to remove Deepak Chopra from his position as President and CEO of Canada Post and conclude these negotiations in a fair and equitable manner.

Sincerely,

John M. Lewis
International Vice President
Director of Canadian Affairs

cc: Mike Paleck, CUPW National President

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